

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

301 State House
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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6797

BILL NUMBER: SB 210

DATE PREPARED: Dec 18, 2001

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Sentences for Child Molesting.

FISCAL ANALYST: Mark Goodpaster

PHONE NUMBER: 232-9852

FUNDS AFFECTED: X **GENERAL**
DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State

Summary of Legislation: This bill provides that a person who is convicted of child molesting as a Class A or Class B felony may be sentenced to life imprisonment without parole if the person has a prior unrelated conviction that is a Class A or Class B felony for child molesting.

Effective Date: July 1, 2002.

Explanation of State Expenditures: This bill will likely affect relatively few offenders. Of the 997 offenders currently in Department of Correction (DOC) facilities for Class A or B child molesting, only eight have been sentenced for a repeat offense. ($8/997 = .008$) Assuming the same rate of repeat offenses occur for offenders who are committed to DOC facilities each year for Class A or B child molestation, between one and two offenders would be likely to be committed for life without parole each year. ($224 \text{ class A and B offenders} \times .008 = 1.8$.)

The following shows the number of offenders who were committed to DOC facilities for Class A or B child molestation between 1996 and 2001:

Offenders Committed to DOC Facilities for Class A and B Child Molesting By Fiscal Year						
	<u>1996</u>	<u>1997</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1999</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>2001</u>
Class A Child Molesting	6	12	31	53	96	79
Class B Child Molesting	129	116	78	89	137	145
Total Commitments	135	128	109	142	233	224

The average expenditure to house an adult offender was \$22,131 in FY 2000. Individual facility expenditures ranged from \$16,442 to \$40,312. (This does not include the cost of new construction.) If offenders can be housed in existing facilities, the average cost for medical care, food, and clothing is approximately \$1,825

annually, or \$5 daily, per prisoner.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Department of Correction.

Local Agencies Affected:

Information Sources: Planning Division, Department of Correction.